

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Reward

AND/OR COMMON

Middleton House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

South bank of Corsica Creek on Gunston Road

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Catherine R. Middleton

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21617

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: CWC 16

Folio #: 544

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

QA-218

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1930'S</u>

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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This frame house, known as Reward, originally stood to the west of Melfield (QA-109) on Corsica Neck. When John Raskob purchased Pioneer Point in the 1930's, the house was scheduled for demolition, but instead was moved to its present location on a wooded site overlooking Corsica Creek. At the time it was moved, brick nogging was removed from the walls and the building was sawed in half. Two replaced floor boards in the first floor hall and a seam in the second floor mark the point where the house was cut in two.

Reward is a 1 1/2 story frame house, four bays wide and one room deep, with exterior brick chimneys at either end of a gambrel roof. The northwest gable end of the house has been extended one bay to accommodate a modern kitchen, and a one story frame addition extends from the northeast wall of the kitchen.

The front facade faces southwest, away from Corsica Creek. The entrance door is located in the center, with one 6/6 window to the left and two 6/6 windows to the right. Shed roof 6/6 dormers

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

are located directly above each first floor opening. The double entrance doors are flanked by 2/2 sidelights above raised panels with flattened ogee panel molds typical of the 1840's, and are framed with an architrave consisting of a cove-astragal backband applied to a beaded and rabbeted fascia. This same architrave is repeated on each of the first floor windows and the northwest dormer. Identical moldings are found on the windows of both additions. These are evidently a result of careful copying by the carpenter who constructed the wings. The exterior weatherboard siding, box cornice, and brick foundation all date to the circa 1940 restoration.

The northwest gable of the original house is completely covered by the kitchen addition. The exterior brick chimney on this gable and on the southeast gable were rebuilt after the house was moved. The southeast gable remains exposed but is uninterrupted by openings.

The northeast facade, facing Corsica Creek, is virtually identical to the front facade. The door is located in the center, flanked by 2/2 sidelights. There are two 6/6 windows to the left and one 6/6 to

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

the right, with 6/6 shed dormers ranged across the second floor directly above each first floor opening. The southeast dormer on this facade has been refitted with a jalosy door to allow a quick fire escape onto the roof of a one story modern porch that stretches across this side of the house.

The interior consists of a center passage plan with flanking parlors. The stair rises against the northwest wall of the passage, beginning as a tight winder, then continuing against the wall in a straight run to the second floor. It is an open string stair with a large square-section reeded newel, a plain rail and tapered balusters with tiger maple graining. The stair ends are decorated with scrolled brackets; the area below the carriage is paneled with tall vertical panels set with flattened ogee panel molds.

The southeast parlor is somewhat larger than the northwest parlor. The mantel in the southeast parlor is a large and ornate Federal surround with pairs of delicate reeded columns flanking the opening and supporting side blocks, a center block, and a molded shelf. The side blocks and center block are decorated with Adamesque sunburst gouge carving. The shelf is dominated by Federal moldings and a band of lozenge

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

reeding, and breaks forward above the sideblocks.

According to Mr. Middleton, the present owner, this mantel was originally in the northwest parlor but was switched to the more formal room.

The mantel in the northwest parlor is typical of the Greek Revival period, with tapered half-columns flanking the opening and supporting a paneled frieze and a bold shelf dominated by flattened Greek ogee moldings.

The window and door architraves throughout the house are also typical of the Greek Revival period, with bullseye corner blocks and "paneled" fascias composed of opposing flattened ogee moldings separated by a rabbeted fillet. The window architraves are carried all the way to the floor. Many of the doors are fitted with metal Carpenter locks.

The second floor plan has been altered, leaving the original plan obscure. At present there is a stair hall in the center, a sleeping chamber to the northwest and two bathrooms and a second chamber to the southeast. Scars in the stair hall floor suggest a possible partition location near the center of the house, but supporting evidence is lacking. Significant

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

detail on the second floor includes a Greek Revival mantel in the northwest chamber and door architraves throughout the second floor.

A trap door in the hall leads to the loft. The roof is constructed in standard gambrel form, with the upper rafter pairs supported by a flat curb plate resting on the ceiling joists, which are secured to the lower rafters with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. The upper rafters are secured at the ridge with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints, and are reinforced with diagonal 1 x 3 braces surviving from the construction of the house. These braces, as well as the flat curb plates and the gable studs are all secured with wrought nails. A hole in the northwest gable opens into the attic of the kitchen addition, and allows examination of early if not original exterior siding. This consists of wide beveled shiplap boards set flush and nailed with wrought nails. Rows of machine made nails remain from a later covering that has been removed.

Dating evidence suggests an 18th century house that has been through one and possibly two major renovations before it was moved and restored.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.5 DESCRIPTION

The Federal mantel and trim may be original, suggesting a construction date of circa 1790-1815, or may be an alteration that was followed circa 1830-1850 by a nearly complete renovation in the Greek Revival period.

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The old frame house known as Reward has a relatively long and complex history, culminating in a move of approximately two miles from Pioneer Point to the present location. The house dates to the 18th or very early 19th century and includes excellent Federal and Greek Revival details. Of particular interest are the Federal mantel in the southeast parlor and the Greek Revival mantels and stair.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

01 0 0 0000

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

10/9/80

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

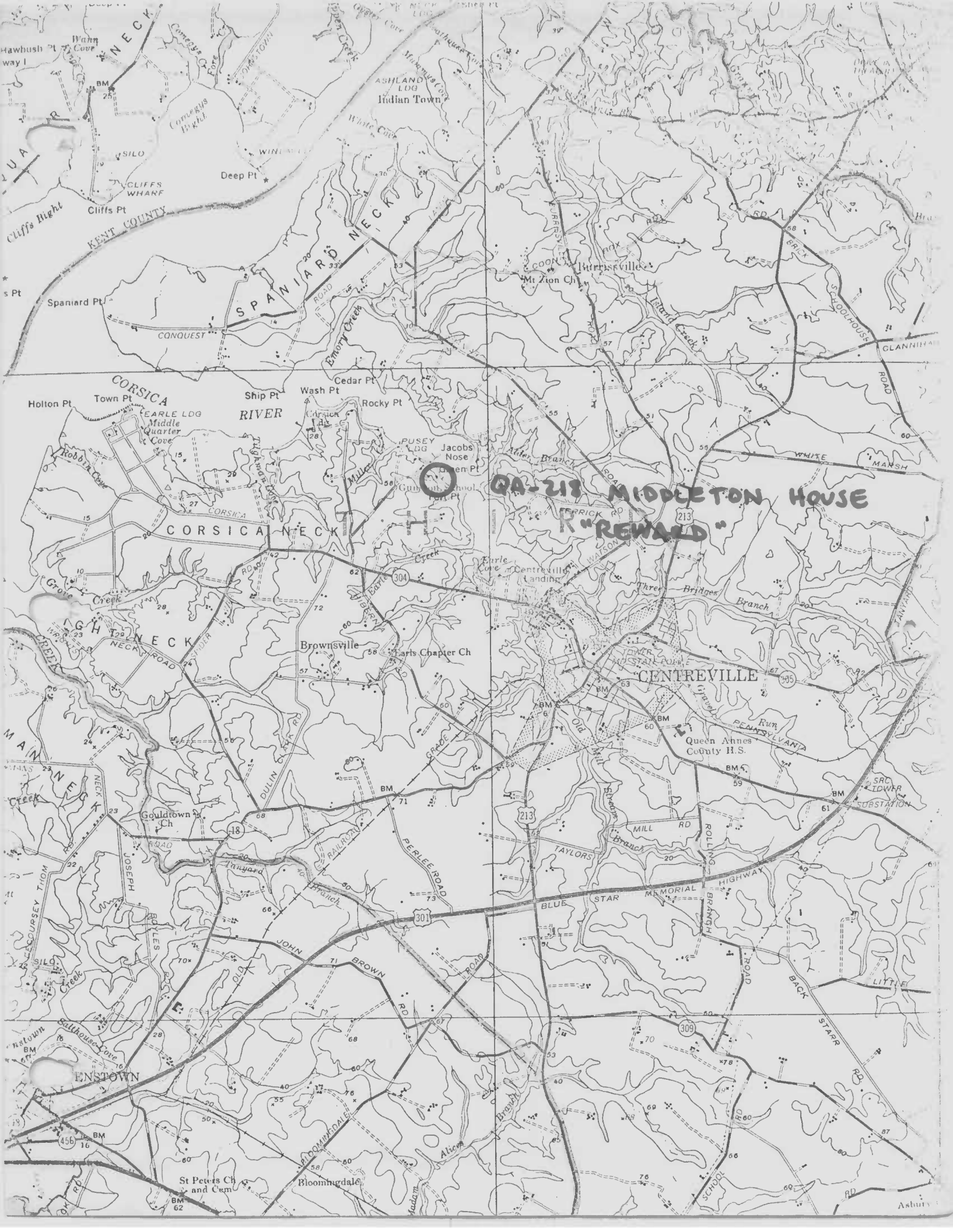
Maryland

Field Notebook QA-XVIII; Recorded May 27, 1980.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



QA-213 MIDDLETOWN HOUSE  
R "REWARD"



QA-218    Middleton House, "Reward"  
          Centreville vicinity  
          Orlando Ridout V    1980  
          Southwest facade



QA-218     Middleton House, "Reward"  
              Centreville vicinity  
              Orlando Ridout V 1980  
              Northeast facade



QA 218

Middleton House

EBD Jr.





QA 218

Middleton House

Q218